

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of tuning a speech recognizer, the method comprising:  
playing a selected portion of a digital audio data file;  
creating and/or modifying a transcript of the selected audio portion;  
displaying information associated with a decode of the selected audio portion;  
and  
determining, based at least in part on the transcript and the information associated with the decode, a modification of the speech recognizer to improve its performance.
2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising providing a graphical user interface having elements for allowing selection, input, and command entry related to the playing, creating, modifying, displaying, and/or determining.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the information comprises a grammar.
4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the information comprises a concept.
5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the information comprises one or more phonemes.
6. The method of Claim 1, wherein the information comprises a confidence score.
7. The method of Claim 1, wherein the information comprises an indication of an acoustic model used to decode the audio portion.
8. The method of Claim 1, wherein the information comprises a time stamp.
9. The method of Claim 1, wherein the information comprises an indication of a language model used to decode the audio portion.
10. The method of Claim 1, wherein the information comprises an acoustic model score.
11. The method of Claim 1, wherein the modification comprises modifying a grammar of the speech recognizer.
12. The method of Claim 11, wherein the modification comprises adding a concept, phrase, word, or phoneme to the grammar.

13. The method of Claim 1, wherein the modification comprises modifying a word pronunciation, dictionary, or acoustic model of the speech recognizer.
14. The method of Claim 1, wherein the modification comprises modifying a call flow.
15. The method of Claim 14, wherein the modification comprises modifying a prompt of a call flow.
16. The method of Claim 1, further comprising making a modification to the speech recognizer.
17. The method of Claim 16, further comprising iteratively performing the recited steps.
18. A method of testing a speech recognizer, the method comprising:
  - receiving a selected portion of a digital audio data file;
  - receiving a grammar having a set of responses expected to occur in the selected portion;
  - based at least in part on the selected portion and the grammar, producing a decode result of the selected portion;
  - receiving a transcript of the selected portion; and
  - scoring the decode result based at least in part on the transcript.
19. The method of Claim 18, wherein the set of responses comprises concepts, phrases, words, and/or phonemes.
20. The method of Claim 18, wherein the decode result comprises concepts, phrases, words, and/or phonemes.
21. The method of Claim 18, wherein the decode result comprises a confidence score.
22. The method of Claim 18, further comprising displaying a result of the scoring.
23. The method of Claim 18, further comprising creating and/or modifying a response file associated with the audio data file.
24. The method of Claim 18, wherein the response file comprises the audio file, a portion of the grammar associated with the audio file, the decode result, and/or the transcript.

25. A system for facilitating the tuning of a speech recognizer, the system comprising:

a playback module configured to play selected portions of a digital audio data file;

an editor module configured to allow creation and modification of a transcript of the selected portions; and

a detail viewing module configured to display information associated with a decoding of the selected portions by the speech recognizer.

26. The system of Claim 25, further comprising a user interface.

27. The system of Claim 25, wherein the user interface comprises a graphical user interface.

28. The system of Claim 25, wherein the information associated with the decoding comprises a grammar associated with the selected portions.

29. The system of Claim 28, wherein the grammar comprises a set of responses expected to occur in the selected portions.

30. The system of Claim 29, wherein the set of responses comprises phrases, words, and/or phonemes.

31. The system of Claim 25, wherein the information associated with the decoding comprises a confidence score.

32. The system of Claim 25, wherein the information associated with the decoding comprises an identification of an acoustic model.

33. The system of Claim 25, wherein the information associated with the decoding comprises phonemes used by the speech recognizer to decode the selected portions.

34. A system for testing a speech recognizer, the system comprising:

an audio recorder module for receiving digital audio input;

a grammar editor module configured to access and allow modification of a grammar, the grammar comprising words, phrases, or phonemes expected to appear in the audio input;

a speech recognition engine configured to output a recognition result based on the audio input and the accessed grammar; and

a scoring module configured to score the recognition result based at least in part on a user-defined transcript of the audio input and the recognition result.

35. The system of Claim 34, further comprising a user interface.

36. The system of Claim 34, wherein the user interface comprises a graphical user interface.

37. The system of Claim 36, wherein the graphical user interface is configured to display an output of the scoring module.

38. The system of Claim 34, wherein the recognition result comprises a confidence score.

39. The system of Claim 34, wherein the recognition result comprises a concept, phrase, word, or phoneme.

40. The system of Claim 34, wherein the recognition result comprises an indication of an acoustic model used by the speech recognizer in decoding the audio input.

41. The system of Claim 40, wherein the recognition result comprises an acoustic model score.

42. The system of Claim 34, further comprising a response file for logically associating the audio input, the transcript, the recognition result, and/or an output of the scoring module.

43. A speech recognizer comprising:

a speech recognition engine configured to generate a decoding of a digital audio data file;

a tester module in data communication with the speech recognition engine;

a tuner module in data communication with the tester module;

wherein the tuner module is configured to output a transcript of at least a portion of the audio data file; and

wherein the tester module is configured to score the decoding based at least in part on the transcript.

44. The speech recognizer of Claim 43, wherein the decoding comprises the speech recognizer's textual representation of the audio data file.

45. The speech recognizer of Claim 43, wherein the tester module comprises a grammar editor.

46. The speech recognizer of Claim 43, wherein the tester module comprises a scoring module.

47. The speech recognizer of Claim 43, wherein the tester module comprises a module for receiving audio input.

48. The speech recognizer of Claim 43, wherein the tuner module comprises a module for creating and/or modifying the transcript.

49. The speech recognizer of Claim 43, wherein the tuner module comprises a module for allowing play back of the audio input.

50. The speech recognizer of Claim 43, wherein the tuner module comprises a module for displaying the decoding.